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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/868,254	06/15/2001	Hugh Boyd Morrison	RCA 89185	6997
7590 Joseph S Tripoli Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc PO Box 5312 Princeton, NJ 08540		04/06/2007	EXAMINER BROWN, RUEBEN M	
			ART UNIT 2623	PAPER NUMBER
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		04/06/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/868,254	MORRISON ET AL.	
	Examiner Reuben M. Brown	Art Unit 2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 January 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 1/8/2007 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Boyer, (US-PG-PUB 2005/0138660), in view of Knudson, (US-PG-PUB 2005/0273819).

Considering claim 1, the amended claimed method for operating a video processing apparatus, such that the video processing apparatus operates in a video-operating mode and in at least one other mode, and wherein the video processing apparatus has an EPG operable in the video operating mode and not in the at least one other mode', is met by the disclosure of Boyer, (Fig. 2), which shows the standard operating mode of an EPG.

'Operating the video processing apparatus in at least one other mode, comprising operating a computer application software program on the video processing apparatus, such that the computer application software program is capable of receiving messages' is met by the disclosure of Boyer, that the user equipment, multimedia system 28, 3, 32 is enabled to support e-mail technology, (Fig. 1; Para [0042]-[0043]). . The claimed computer application software program, reads on the e-mail service disclosed in Boyer. The amended claimed feature of the computer application software program having a display, reads on the display of Fig. 6 .

'Receiving an advertisement associated with a broadcast TV program, while the computer application software program is running' is met by Fig. 6; Para [0051]-[0052], which shows an advertisement for a TV program being received via e-mail. 'Causing the advertisement to be displayed by the computer application software program in an area of the display', is also met by Boyer, Para [0051].

‘receiving a signal selecting the advertisement’ and ‘operating the video processing apparatus in the video operating mode to obtaining the TV program related to the advertisement’, Boyer does not specifically show that the subscriber can select the advertised program, for tuning, from the reminder. Nevertheless Knudson, which is in the same field of endeavor, teaches a subscriber choosing to immediately tune to an advertised program, see Para [0068]-[0069], using a TUNE button 129b, (Fig. 9). It would have been obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, to modify Boyer in order to automatically tune to the reminder, at least for the advantage of avoiding the need for the user to require a different screen in order to access the advertised program.

Considering claims 2 & 8-9, the e-mail technology of Boyer meets the claimed subject matter.

Considering claim 3-4, the claimed ‘control information’ reads on the disclosure of Fig. 6 in Boyer & Fig. 9 of Knudson.

Considering claim 5, see Knudson, Para [0068]-[0069]; [0084]-[0085].

Considering claim 6-7, the claimed method steps for operating a video processing apparatus comprising steps that correspond with subject matter mentioned above on the rejection of claim 1, are likewise treated.

Considering claim 10, see Knudson [0068] & [0084].

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's claims.

A) Hanafee Teaches that a viewer may receive an ad concerning an event different from the current TV program, after which the viewer may select the icon for tuning to the event, Fig. 3; col. 4, lines 12-25.

B) Boyer Teaches receiving a program reminder by pop-up and/or e-mail, Para [0087].

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Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
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or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300, (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or:

(571) 273-7290 (for informal or draft communications, please label
"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Reuben M. Brown M. Brown whose telephone number is (571) 272-7290. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(8:30-6:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Reuben M. Brown

Reuben M. Brown
REUBEN M. BROWN
PATENT EXAMINER